

Chief Montroll, while holding a full-time law enforcement job at Harbor Police Department, enrolled in Southern University at New Orleans and obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. Soon thereafter, she secured her Master's Degree in Business Administration from the University of New Orleans. "Education is the key to doors that cannot be opened normally."

Within two years of her being employed by the Harbor Police Department, she was promoted to Corporal, which gave her officer supervisory responsibilities within the department. After many awards and accommodations, she was promoted to Sergeant, which included being the Director of Training and the Commander of the Marine division. This position prepared her to, once again, be promoted. This time to Lieutenant, and those responsibilities made her the Commander of the Criminal Investigations and Internal Affairs Division.

As a reward for Chief Montroll's hard work and dedication, she was promoted to Assistant Chief of the Harbor Police Department in 2017 with the rank of Captain. The job included Captain of all Platoons, Communications and Surveillance Center, Criminal Investigations and Internal Affairs, Maritime Security Operations Center, Bicycle Division, Training Division, and the day-to-day operations of the Harbor Police Department. She supervised security guards working under the purview of the Harbor Police Department. She was responsible for ensuring adequate and efficient deployment of patrol officers to various sections of the Port of New Orleans as well as overseeing the Port of New Orleans Fireboat Boat and 9-member crew. She was responsible for three civilian staff in charge of emergency operations and homeland security. She was responsible for the fiscal budget for the department and responsible for the Port of New Orleans remaining compliant with MTS (Coast Guard Regulations) and Commander of Harbor Police Department's Marine Division. She served as the liaison for personnel and time management for subordinate officers between the Harbor Police Department and the Port of New Orleans' Human Relations Division. She coordinated working relationships with outside law enforcement agencies, including local, state, and federal.

Under the tutelage of Chief Robert Hecker, she learned the ins and outs of being the Chief of Police. She credits Chief Hecker for being an outstanding mentor and role model in policing. On Monday, February 28, 2022, after a long interview process, Melanie received the call that she was selected to be the next Chief of Police for the Harbor Police Department. Chief Montroll is the first African American female Chief of Police for the Harbor Police Department and one of the first in the State of Louisiana. Chief Montroll is married to Danyell Montroll and has a son Daniel and live in the Greater New Orleans Metropolitan area. She is an inspiring member of our community and I congratulate her on this incredible achievement.

SUPPORTING H.R. 5001, THE UPPER COLORADO AND SAN JUAN RIVER BASINS RECOVERY ACT

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 24, 2022

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5001, the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Recovery Act. This bipartisan bill would reauthorize and extend critical endangered fish recovery programs in the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.

The Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program was first established in the 1980s to help bring four species of endangered fish back from the brink of extinction, while continuing existing water development and ensuring compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

The San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program was established in 1992, and similarly works to protect these endangered fish in the San Juan River sub-basin, a part of the larger Upper Colorado River Basin.

These programs are unique collaborative efforts between local, state and Tribal officials, federal agencies, water and power interests, and environmental groups—all working together to recover these endangered species, preserve ecosystems, and maintain water development.

These four species of fish are only found in the Colorado River Basin—making the work of the recovery partners crucial to their recovery. Both programs work collaboratively for the recovery of these species, and have become models for their collaborative conservation efforts to protect endangered species.

Last year, one of the endangered species in the Upper Colorado River Basin—the humpback chub—was moved from endangered to threatened status due to the many years of effort from this partnership. Another species—the razorback sucker—was also proposed for delisting last summer, resulting from the actions of the recovery programs and their partners over the past 30 years.

My bill would reauthorize these critical programs through 2024 and extend current reporting deadlines for the Recovery Programs.

Extending the program authorization an additional year allows federal partners to include funding for the programs in their three-year budgetary planning cycle, and does not raise the cost ceiling for the current programs.

The bill also provides an extension of reporting requirements for the recovery programs—as requested by the program partners—to account for challenges and delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am glad to have the support of several of my colleagues from these states as cosponsors on this effort, along with the support of local and state officials across the Upper Colorado River Basin.

The technical amendments my bill makes are necessary to preserve the functioning of these successful programs, and ensure the programs are able to continue to operate smoothly for an additional year.

CELEBRATING THE ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF NATIVO

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 24, 2022

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Nativo restaurant in the community of Highland Park on its one-year anniversary.

Nativo first opened for business in November 2020, but temporarily closed its doors amid the rising COVID-19 case count. In February 2021, the colorful Guadalajara-inspired restaurant began to welcome guests again.

Nativo has been a local, family-owned operation from day one. Gabriel Paredes, a Highland Park native, draws inspiration from his family roots in the neighborhood of Guadalajara, Jalisco. He remembers walking up and down York and Figueroa with his grandfather selling boots from a beat up old white truck. "One of my dreams has always been to come back to the neighborhood that has meant so much to me," says Paredes. Corissa Hernandez, co-owner and wife, is Nativo's cultural liaison. "We want to create a platform for people of color, for women," says Hernandez.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Gabriel Paredes, Corissa Hernandez, and Nativo on their one-year anniversary. I also extend to all of them my best wishes for many more years of success ahead and I invite my colleagues to stop by Nativos the next time they're in Los Angeles.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PERVIS SPANN, ALSO KNOWN AS "THE BLUES MAN"

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 24, 2022

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life and legacy of an extraordinary man and broadcast radio icon, an on-air personality, and a radio station owner: Mr. Pervis Spann.

Pervis Spann was born in Itta Be, Mississippi on August 16, 1932. Growing up, he picked cotton and cared for his family when his mother fell ill. At age 14, he managed the Dixie Theater, a local Black theater. His family uprooted from Mississippi and migrated to Battle Creek, Michigan in search of jobs, education, housing, and the right to vote. Spann joined the military and fought for our Nation during the Korean War.

In the 1950s, his love for music would lead him to his first disc jockey job at WOPA in Oak Park, Illinois. In 1960, he organized his first concert, which showcased B.B. King and Junior Parker. In 1963, Phil and Leonard Chess bought a radio station that later became known as WVON. Shortly afterwards, Spann was hired by the Chess brothers as a disc jockey for their 24-hour blues station.

Spann became known as the "The Blues Man", gaining notoriety with an 87-hour sleepless "sit-in" raising money for Civil Rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. On April 1, 1963, Spann and his business partner, Wesley South, would purchase the radio station and create the mantra, "The Voice of the Negro."